



Oil Spill Preparedness Program Preparedness Analysts

Preparedness Verification is one of three essential roles in the Bureau's Oil Spill Preparedness Program. In this role, BSEE must ensure that owners and operators of offshore oil facilities are trained and equipped to respond to oil spills from the time the first well is drilled to the time the last platform is removed. The Oil Spill Preparedness Division (OSPD) administers the oil spill preparedness regulatory requirements for offshore facilities as outlined in Part 254 of Title 30 of the Code of Federal Regulations. In doing so, Preparedness Analysts research, improve, and execute a variety of important regulatory activities.



Review Oil Spill Response Plans

All owners and operators of offshore facilities seaward of the coastline that handle, store, or transport oil must, with some exceptions, have an approved Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) before operations begin, and must operate their facilities in accordance with that OSRP. Analysts regularly review OSRPs to ensure their proper submission and compliance with the regulations.



Audit Industry Training and Exercises

OSPD verifies that offshore facility owners and operators conduct their required oil spill preparedness exercises and training. Within a triennial cycle, owners and operators must exercise their Qualified Individuals, Incident Management Teams, Spill Response Operating Teams, and other resources and capabilities described within an OSRP.



Conduct Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises (GIUE)

Analysts design and execute GIUEs to witness and evaluate, on a no-notice basis, a plan holder's abilities to employ public and private equipment, resources, and staff in responding to a hypothetical oil spill. BSEE frequently partners with other Federal and State government entities to administer GIUES.



Support the National Response System (NRS)

OSPD maintains subject matter expertise on the intent, organization, and execution of the NRS to ensure that OSRPs are consistent with the system's tenets. Analysts regularly participate in Area Committees and Regional Response Teams and contribute updates to their associated contingency plans. During an incident, analysts may also provide subject matter expertise and BSEE liaison support within a Unified Command.



Inspect Response Equipment

Analysts check the equipment listed within each OSRP to ensure that it is properly maintained, ready to be operated, and performs as specified by the manufacturer. They review the maintenance and exercise records for listed response equipment, and regularly travel around the country to storage depots and other deployment sites to view them in person.